REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Of claims 1-16 that were pending in the application, the Examiner objected to dependent claim 4 and rejected dependent claims 9 and 16. Applicant greatly appreciates the allowance of claims 1-3, 5-8, and 10-15. By way of this amendment, Applicant has amended dependent claims 4, 9, and 16. Accordingly, claims 1-16 remain pending for further consideration.

1. Objection to Claim 4

The Examiner objected to claim 4 for a formalistic reason. Applicant respectfully submits that this objection has been fully obviated by way of the amendment made herein to claim 4. A withdrawal of this objection is, therefore, both warranted and earnestly solicited.

2. Rejection of Claims 9 and 16

The Examiner rejected claims 9 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 as allegedly being indefinite. Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has been fully obviated by way of the amendments made herein to claims 9 and 16 and, therefore, a withdrawal of this rejection is both warranted and earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-16 are now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if such communication would expedite the prosecution of the application.

FEB 2 7 2006

Date

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Respectfully submitted,

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THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED REGARDING THIS APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT, TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 19-0741. SHOULD NO PROPER PAYMENT BE ENCLOSED HEREWITH, AS BY A CHECK BEING IN THE WRONG AMOUNT, UNSIGNED, POST-DATED, OTHERWISE IMPROPER OR INFORMAL OR EVEN ENTIRELY MISSING, THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE THE UNPAID AMOUNT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 19-0741. IF ANY EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE NEEDED FOR TIMELY ACCEPTANCE OF PAPERS SUBMITTED HEREWITH, APPLICANT HEREBY PETITIONS FOR SUCH EXTENSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 AND AUTHORIZES PAYMENT OF ANY SUCH EXTENSIONS FEES TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 19-0741.